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BY ECF

December 29, 2011

The Honorable Kiyo A. Matsumoto
United States District Judge
United States Courthouse
Eastern District of New York
225 Cadman Plaza East
Brooklyn, NY 11201

**RE: United States v. Russo, et al.
 Indictment No. 11-CR-30 (KAM)
 Defendant Michael Castellano**

Dear Judge Matsumoto:

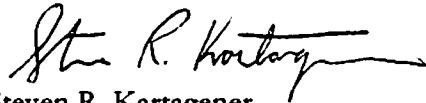
I represent defendant Michael Castellano (hereinafter "defendant") in the above-entitled criminal action. Defendant's sentencing is currently scheduled for January 23, 2012 at 11:00 a.m.

I am writing this letter to respectfully request, with the consent of the Government, a one-month adjournment of defendant's sentencing. This is our first request for an adjournment. I have discussed this request with AUSA Allon Lifshitz, the assistant handling the case, and he consents to our request. We are still awaiting a report from an expert concerning a serious health issue confronting defendant's 5-year-old son that we wish to present to the Court as a part of our pre-sentence submission.

Accordingly, I respectfully request that defendant's sentencing be adjourned for one month, so that we can have additional time to obtain this information.

Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,



Steven R. Kartagener

cc: AUSA Allon Lifshitz